



# SPOTLIGHT

Newsletter of the DOE Electronic Proposal Management Application (ePMA) project

**Thank you, CSC!**

## **ePMA Bids Farewell to Computer Sciences Corporation, Welcomes NetIDEAS**

September is a month of major change for ePMA, as the project transitions from Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), the contractor responsible for the application's development, to NetIDEAS, which will be responsible for new National Laboratory interface coding and for the transition.

The ePMA Project Team regrettably says good-bye to the staff at CSC, who so competently transformed off-the-shelf software into ePMA, the only electronic proposal transmittal program used by all the major National Laboratories.



*Alex Clayborne, formerly with Computer Sciences Corporation, conducts training on an earlier release of ePMA.*

Our fervent appreciation to CSC staff for their work on ePMA, particularly those most recently on the project, Chuck Reece, Steve Ducharme, Alex Clayborne, Melissa Godlewski, and Jeff Voivoda.

However, we welcome the staff of NetIDEAS, who are joining the ePMA Project Team and whose primary responsibilities include coding the application for the BARDI (Basic and Applied Research and Development Integration) project, which is covered elsewhere in this newsletter. NetIDEAS staff joining the Project Team include Joe Iannaccone, Co-Founder and Vice-President; Tom Rassmann, President and COO; and Jon Langlois, Manager of NetIDEAS' product and development group.

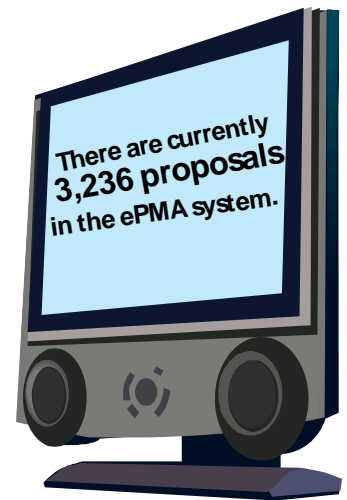
CSC staff supported ePMA since August 2002, and assisted with the business case validation and business process reengineering phases of the project. Their major achievement, however, was the coding work that turned Windchill PDMLink, by Parametric Technology Corporation, into ePMA, the only uniform electronic proposal transmittal system used by all major National Laboratories. (Windchill is the software upon which ePMA is built.)

CSC's last task was to complete and test the coding for the approved Software Change Requests to enhance Release 4, which will be deployed following NetIDEAS' coding for the BARDI project. *continued*

CSC was instrumental in the success of ePMA. “Without the expertise and support of CSC staff over the last four years, there would not be an ePMA,” said Vince Dattoria of DOE’s Office of Science, ePMA’s outgoing Project Manager. The ePMA Project Team expresses its heartfelt thanks to the CSC staff for their assistance. We appreciate their help in the early days, when ePMA was being developed from a concept into a product, and their help with developing training materials (including the on-line computer-based training modules), conducting training, staffing the Helpdesk for many months, and always being available to assist system users.

NetIDEAS, founded by Product Lifecycle Management experts from the aerospace and defense industry, specializes in application support. Its staff has a high level of Windchill expertise and will be working with the Windchill developers, so the transition from CSC to NetIDEAS is being accomplished quickly and effectively. In 2007, NetIDEAS, working with PTC (Parametric Technology Corporation), will upgrade ePMA to the current version of Windchill, which should result in a more efficient application, though users will notice no changes in appearance.

The ePMA application is being moved to a SunGARD data facility on the East Coast from DOE’s Application Hosting Environment. SunGARD is a leading provider of application hosting services and provides 24/7 application monitoring as well as the best cyber security and physical security protections available. With NetIDEAS and PTC maintaining the application, ePMA will in the near future have Helpdesk support for off hours and uninterrupted system availability. The move should solve the “time out” problem that has vexed system users, especially those responding to the Field Budget Call at deadline time. Look for more information on the transition in the next newsletter.



## BARDI Project to Enhance Research and Development with National Laboratory Interface

### Release 4 Coming with BARDI

Coding for the Release 4 Software Change Requests has been completed and successfully tested, and Release 4, along with the new BARDI coding for ePMA, is now scheduled for deployment before the end of the calendar year.

The first phase of the Basic and Applied Research and Development Integration (BARDI) project, launched this summer, is establishing a new ePMA interface with the major DOE National Laboratories to enhance the ability of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) to manage and track its research and development projects.

The **Phase I** development efforts, also known as the Laboratory Interface Project, will build the infrastructure to allow data transfer between EERE and the National Laboratories via ePMA. The new functionality will enable EERE to collect critical project information from the National Laboratories for comparison with its CPS (Corporate Planning System) agreement-level planning data.

The links will facilitate implementation of a fully integrated database system for EERE that draws mission-oriented project information from

EERE’s Project Management Center and the National Laboratories. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Oak Ridge National Laboratory will test a Phase I pilot, scheduled to run from November 2006 to February 2007.

EERE has invited the Office of Science (SC) to participate in **Phase II** of the BARDI project, which would implement the interface for SC and make any necessary changes to the system to facilitate the process. *continued*

**Phase III**, if implemented, will enable co-management of shared basic and applied research and development projects between the Office of Science and EERE.

If all phases are implemented, the BARDI project will facilitate data exchange between SC and EERE, allowing each office to better coordinate and manage their collaborative R&D efforts, make and track funding decisions, and monitor research progress.

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## Vince Dattoria Leaves ePMA

Vince Dattoria of DOE's Office of Science (SC), ePMA's Project Manager since February 2005, is leaving the ePMA Project Team to join SC's Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research. Mr. Dattoria, former ePMA Technical Manager and Security Manager, has been with the project since 1997, when it was just a concept known as CME--the Collaborative Management Environment. His leadership has helped this concept become the reality of ePMA. Mr. Dattoria has served as the senior technical advisor to the Director of the Office of Scientific and Technical Information and was the Associate Director for Information Systems Development at OSTI. Vince, thanks for all you've done, and best wishes from the ePMA Project Team.



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## David Henderson Becomes ePMA Project Manager

David Henderson has been named ePMA's Project Manager, replacing Vince Dattoria. Dave joined the ePMA Project Team as Technical Manager in September 2005. He is a Senior Information Specialist and Senior Advisor to DOE's Office of Scientific and Technical Information's Associate Director for Administration and Information Services. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with an MS in Information Management, he has worked in the information management and information technology fields for 35 years.



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## From the New Project Manager

As the new ePMA Project Manager, I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has helped us successfully reach this point. Over the past year, I have appreciated working with dedicated Site Administration Managers and system users at the National Laboratories, the Site and Field Offices, and at Headquarters. Your commitment to using and improving ePMA has enabled us to reach the milestone of 3,236 proposals in the system. I would like to especially thank Vince Dattoria for his diligence and hard work, not only in his previous position as the ePMA Project Manager, but also for his work as ePMA's Technical Manager and Security Manager. Many thanks to all project participants, past and present.

- Dave Henderson

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## Feedback Requested!

- We want to hear from you. Help promote ePMA by telling others about the project or pointing them to the project Web site: <http://epma.energy.gov>.
- Suggest or submit an article for future editions of *Spotlight*.
- Tell us what you think about ePMA. We need your input to successfully enhance and support this first-of-a-kind system.

Contact Jim Fremont, ePMA Communication and Outreach Manager, at [james.fremont@ee.doe.gov](mailto:james.fremont@ee.doe.gov)

Deployed on September 30, 2004, ePMA provides--for the first time--a uniform format for the electronic submission, review, and tracking of research and development proposals from the National Laboratories to Headquarters Program Secretarial Offices, thereby enhancing the efficiency of the Department's R&D activities.

*Spotlight* is the official newsletter for the DOE Electronic Proposal Management Application (ePMA) project.  
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